

NEWSLETTER

No. 29

Term 4, Week 5

Thursday 12th November



Principal's Note

Kia ora Families,

Can you believe that we are halfway through another term already? Term 4 is absolutely flying by. We have been exceptionally busy in the school and outside of the school settings with loads of learning, sports and events. A BIG thank you all for your hard work during our swimming sessions. We are absolutely delighted with the progress shown by all classes over the two weeks of lessons. An even bigger thank you to Port Otago for their financial support of our swimming this year. If you happen to be a parent who has an affiliation with Port Otago, please do pass on our appreciation too.

Please do remember that the school **WILL BE CLOSED FOR INSTRUCTION next Friday, 20th of November** for our Teachers Only Day. This is to allow for our staff to partake in school-wide professional development and collaborate on the very complex task of putting together meaningful, evidence-based end of year reports.

During this process, we have been able to take a really focused look at the learning progress made by our children this year. I must admit, we were unclear as to the extent of the impact that distance learning and shutdowns would have on the achievement of our children. I am so pleased with the results that we are seeing however. Our primary focus this half of the year has been the well-being of our children. We know that if children are happy, safe and secure in their setting, learning will flourish. This has proven to be true and thanks to the incredible work of our teachers, the amazing support of our families, and most importantly, the efforts of our children, we know that our kids are not just coping, but doing extremely well! We look forward to sharing more about your child's learning year with you very soon.

Lastly, a special mention to three of our star athletes, Liam Grey, Chloe Mason and Ava Williams who have all qualified for the Otago Athletics Champs next Tuesday. We wish you well and know that you will make us all very proud.

Ka kite ano.

Gareth Swete
Principal

Person of the week



Congratulations to Isaac R, Alex, Elight, Ngāki, Arden and Madi who were nominated for Person of the Week. The trophy for Week 4 went home with Ngāki

Important Dates

Teacher Only Day: Friday 20th November

Board of Trustee Meeting Dates: Tuesday 1st Dec

Last Day of term: Wednesday 16th December

First Day of 2021: Wednesday 3rd February

Classroom Notes

Papatūānuku

- We did an experiment on Monday. We put baking soda, dishwashing liquid and lemon juice in a glass. First we wrote down what we thought might happen when we mixed them. This is called a hypothesis. When we mixed it all together, it changed colour and fizzed and bubbled and rose to the top of the glass. It even overflowed.
- We were excited to welcome a group from Koputai daycare who came to visit us this week.
- We read a story about Goldilocks and the three bears, then did an activity sorting their house items by size.

Report by Papatūānuku

Hine-Rau-Whārangī

Our focus at the moment in our science experiments is exploring baking soda and what happens when it is mixed to different ingredients. There was no reaction when we added baking soda to water but once we had stirred it, it dissolved and went transparent. Adding baking soda to vinegar was a different story! The vinegar and baking soda reacted and created carbon dioxide. We couldn't see the carbon dioxide because it is a gas but we did see it bubble up and out of the glass. By the time you read the newsletter today, we would have done another experiment with baking soda. Ask someone in HRW about what it was and what happened!!

Report by Mrs Barr

Tāwhirimātea

This week in class the children have been learning about and exploring what a turangawaewae is. We learnt that turangawaewae is the Māori term for a special place your feet can stand on. Each child has produced a piece of artwork showing their special place. As well as our young artists painting, they have also been learning the applications of time in real life scenarios.

Lastly, we have been working on descriptive writing. We used the story of Little Red Riding Hood to describe the wolf, create an alternative ending, and to finish the week off create plays of the story to share with the class.

This week is my last week here at Sawyers Bay School. The past five weeks have flown by and I have thoroughly enjoyed spending time gaining teaching experience from a wonderful bunch of children. Thank you to Mrs Swete and the children in Tāwhirimātea for having me.

Report by Miss Sims

Ranginui

A picture paints a thousand words in Ranginui this week



Report by Ranginui

Hinemoana

Along with the two other senior classes, Hinemoana was lucky enough to go on a trip to the University of Otago Food Science Department. Here we watched and participated in experiments all to do with Antarctica. We learnt about the three states of matter, solid, liquid and gas. We watched ice cream being made with liquid nitrogen (and got to eat it too!) and made our very own OJ slushies. It was so interesting to see science taking place out in the real world, beyond school. This is also our last week with Miss Hurtig. We have had lots of fun having you with us in Hinemoana. Some highlights have been watching you make a vegemite sandwich with our instructions, making hot chocolates and creating our board games. Thank you Miss Hurtig!

Report by Miss Laing

Tāne Mahuta

Last week Tāne Mahuta had great success with their in-stream life field trip, after walking to the golf course to meet Mr Fisher and Taylor we began our in-stream exploration with the class being split into 3 groups, equipped with the tools

we needed and we were off into the stream to see what we could find.

It wasn't long before all heads were in the water and we had found an area that had freshwater Crayfish/kōura, a variety of flies, finding these in our stream told us that our stream life was rather healthy. We also used a bathyscope to look in the water at the algae it also made it easier to spot the Koura who are very quick. Next we were off to Pete's Patch where Mr Fisher had set some other traps, this is where we were able to see a variety of fish, red finned bullies, long finned eel, white bait and more koura. As part of our learning we now know how important it is to look after our waterways as it is a great food source for our native flora and fauna (lora is plant life; fauna refers to animals).

Report by Mrs Brewer & Mr Fisher

Sports

Touch

Thurs 5th Nov	Team	vs	Score	POD
Year 3-4	Nuggets	MHS Yellow Columba College	4-6 (L)	Everyone
Year 5-6	Saints	Navy		cancelled
Year 5-6	Bombers	St Bernies Burgers		cancelled

Futsal

Tues 10th Nov	Team	vs	Score	POD
Year 1-2	Gunners	Carisbrook Leopards	0-2 (L)	Liam Hur
Year 1-2	Reds	Fairfield Zippers	0-10 (L)	Liam Hes
Year 3-4	Aston Villa	Tainui 3	2-2 (D)	Lucca
Year 3-4	Rangers	Brockville Braves	2-1 (W)	Asher

Wed 11th Nov

Year 5-6	Tigers	Sacred Heart	6-3 (W)	Hunter
Year 5-6	Hammers	St Clair 9	0-6 (L)	Connor

About School

Instream Life for Tāne Mahuta and Experiments galore

